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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/832,908	04/12/2001	Koichi Matsuda	SON-2079	1654

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EXAMINER	
LONSBERRY, HUNTER B	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2611	

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/832,908	MATSUDA, KOICHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Hunter B. Lonsberry	2611	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-16* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-16* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *12 April 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 1 and 4-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,363,364 to Nel in view of U.S. Patent 5,640,386 to Wiedeman.

Regarding claims 1 and 8, Nel discloses in figure 7, a bi-directional information service providing system comprised of an uplink/downlink 169 (bi-directional satellite dish 169 in communications with broadcasting/receiving station 171, column 7, lines 51-58) of a satellite communication network comprising:

a transmitting means (171) for transmitting content information to a user by said downlink (column 7, lines 58-60);

a receiving means (171) for receiving a request signal from said user by said uplink (column 7, lines 51-58); and

Nel fails to disclose a receiving means that receives a request signal from said user by said uplink in a predetermined time band and a control means for making said transmitting means transmit certain content information at a certain time in response to said request from the user received in said receiving means.

Wiedeman discloses a bi-directional satellite system in figures 6 and 7, which utilizes TDMA protocols, time slots are assigned to a user request from a user location (terminal 13 or phone 1) which is transmitted via a satellite to the device with which the user desires to connect (terminal 13' or phone 2) (column 10, line 63-column 11, line 43), thus preventing collisions between upstream communications by defining a time period in which devices may communicate with one another. Wiedeman inherently informs each device of its timing information in advance, as the devices need to know what time slots there are to transmit and receive data.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Nel to utilize the TDMA protocols of Wiedeman, thus preventing collisions between upstream communications by defining a time period in which devices may communicate with one another.

Regarding claims 4-5, Nel discloses transmitting and receiving user information requests and transmits data between an Internet network and satellite network.

Nel is silent regarding adding predetermined additional information to the content for transmission where the information is packet data according to a predetermined communications protocol.

Wiedeman discloses a satellite distribution system which reformats data for transmission between dissimilar communication systems prior to transmitting it via satellite to a user by the use of a protocol converter 70G which down converts the data and repacketizes it in from CDMA to a TDMA format or vice versa (figures 6/7, column

11, lines 44-column 12, line 13), thus enabling communications between dissimilar networks.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to modify the transmission system of Nel to utilize the protocol conversion of Wiedeman, thus enabling communications between dissimilar networks.

Regarding claim 6-7, Nel discloses in Figure 7, a bi-directional satellite network in which a user 158 may communicate in a teleconference with a user 159 or via the internet phone users 161 via broadcaster 171 and transmits and sends data via satellite 170, or the user may request and receive data via the same interface (column 7, lines 25-column 8, line 17). Nel inherently transmits user data as packet data in a predetermined protocol, as user data is required to ensure that the teleconference data is routed to the proper user, and protocols are required for a user 158 to communicate with a user 161 who is communicating via the Internet.

Regarding claims 9-10, Nel discloses that a user may request information via an uplink 84, which is received by station 86, which in turn provides the requested information to the user (column 4, lines 39-47).

Regarding claim 11, Nel discloses in figure 7, an information service providing method in a bi-directional information service providing system composed of an

uplink/downlink 169 (column 7, lines 51-58) of a satellite communication network, comprising:

a step of transmitting content information to a user by said downlink (content in some form must be transmitted to the user in order for the user to make a selection column 7, lines 28-40) ;

a step of receiving a request signal from said user by said uplink (column 7, lines 31-40) ;and

a step of transmitting certain content information in response to said request from the user (column 4, lines 51-58).

Nel fails to disclose receiving a request signal from said user by said uplink in a predetermined time band and transmitting contents to a user at a certain time.

Wiedeman discloses a bi-directional satellite system in figures 6 and 7, which utilizes TDMA protocols, time slots are assigned to a user request from a user location (terminal 13) which is transmitted via a satellite to the device with which the user desires to connect (terminal 13') (column 10, line 63-column 11, line 43), thus preventing collisions between upstream communications by defining a time period in which devices may communicate with one another. Wiedeman inherently informs each device of its timing information in advance, as the devices need to know what time slots there are to transmit and receive data.

Therefore it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify Nel to utilize the TDMA protocols of Wiedeman, thus preventing

collisions between upstream communications by defining a time period in which devices may communicate with one another.

Regarding claims 12-15 see claims 4-7.

Regarding claim 16 see claims 9-10.

2. Claims 2 and 3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,363,364 to Nel in view of U.S. Patent 5,640,386 to Wiedeman in further view of U.S. Patent 6,182,128 to Kelkar.

Regarding claim 3, Nel discloses transmitting requests to a remote device.

The combination of Nel and Wiedeman does not disclose transmitting a high quality music signal or moving picture signals.

Kelkar discloses a music on demand system in which a user requests a music track stored in a library 20 (column 3, lines 41-62), the track may be a CD (high quality music format) or stored on a hard drive, the data is then transmitted to a user (column 4, line 55-column 5, line 21), video may also be transmitted (column 6, lines 22-35), thus providing a user with access to a large selection of music without having to leave their home and minimizing waiting times (column 6, lines 49-56).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of invention to modify the distribution system of Nel to utilize the music distribution service of Kelkar, thus providing a user with access to a large selection of music without having to leave their home and minimizing waiting times.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hunter B. Lonsberry whose telephone number is 703-305-3234. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday during normal business hours.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Grant can be reached on 703-305-4755. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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PRIMARY EXAMINE